

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for assisting in the application of CPR to a thorax of a body, comprising:

a means to protect the thorax mounted on the thorax including a means to stabilize a means for applying compressions;

a means for determining a stroke rate connected to the stabilizing means;

a means for determining a compression force connected to the stabilizing means;

a means for determining whether a tilt condition exists in the application of the compression force connected to the stabilizing means; and

wherein the means for applying compressions is attached to the means for determining a compression force.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said means to protect the thorax comprises a chest positioner/pad.

3. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said stabilizing means is a socket having a base and four sidewalls.

4. The apparatus according to claim 1 further including a means for maintaining said means to protect the thorax at a position upon which it is mounted on the thorax.

5. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the means for applying compressions is a rounded grip.

6. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the means for determining a compression force includes a pressure sensor which contacts a plate having a plurality of legs wherein the legs contact the stabilizing means.

7. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said means for determining whether a tilt condition

exists includes a plurality of microswitches which contact a plurality of edges on a plate having a plurality of legs wherein the legs contact the stabilizing means.

8. The apparatus according to claim 1 further including a means to expand the chest beyond a normal diastole relaxation position.

9. The apparatus according to claim 1 further including a means for applying an abdomen compression.

10. An apparatus for assisting in the application of CPR to a thorax of a body, comprising:

a means to protect the thorax mounted on the thorax including a means to stabilize a means for applying compressions;

the means for applying compressions including a means for maintaining a compression force at a preferred stroke rate connected to the stabilizing means;

a dorsal/back strap connected around the thorax and to the means for applying compressions;
and

a means to expand the chest beyond a normal diastole relaxation position.

11. The apparatus according to claim 10 wherein said means to protect the thorax comprises a chest positioner/pad.

12. The apparatus according to claim 10 wherein said stabilizing means is a socket having a base and four sidewalls.

13. The apparatus according to claim 10 wherein said means to expand the chest comprises a recoil spring connected to the means for applying compressions and connected to the dorsal/back strap.

14. The apparatus according to claim 10 further including a means for applying abdomen compression to an abdomen of the body.

15. The apparatus according to claim 10 further including a connector attached between the means for applying compressions and the dorsal/back strap wherein the connector includes a means for indicating a tension of the dorsal/back strap.

16. The apparatus according to claim 10 wherein the means for applying compressions comprises a motor driven compression device.

17. The apparatus according to claim 10 wherein the means for applying compressions comprises a barehand driven augmentation device.

18. An improved method for applying CPR to a thorax of a body by applying a pad to a chest of the body, applying a manual compression force on the chest, and monitoring a compression force which is applied, comprising:

sensing a direction in a which a compression force is applied;

determining whether the sensed direction and the compression force violate a tilt condition;

and

communicating the existence of the tilt condition to a person interested in applying CPR.